Agreement between CIL and trade unions

2519. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has been reached between the Coal India Ltd. Management and five major central trade unions;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Coal companies have taken a decision to rehabilitate wards of deceased workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Memorandum of Agreement has been signed on 15.07.2005 between the Coal India Limited and its subsidiary companies and five major Central Trade Unions, regarding revision of wages, allowances and other fringe benefits.

(c) Under National Coal Wage Agreement-VII, it has been agreed that provisions for employment on compassionate grounds towards of deceased workers as per National Coal Wage Agreement-VI (NCWA-VI) will continue to operate till a revised scheme is jointly prepared.

Import of coal

2520. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to import coal to meet the requirement of power companies and other industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantity and grade of coal to be imported and from which countries;

(d) the efforts made by Coal India to increase production of good quality coal in the country; and

(e) if so, the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (c) Import of coal is not done centrally. since coal is under Open General Licence (OGL), consumers are free to import coal